



39 18th Avenue

Tauranga 3112

Telephone: (07) 5784424

Email: office@taurangaspecialschool.nz

Website www.taurangaspecialschool.nz

Facebook: facebook.com/TGASpecialSchool

WEEK 5 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

Monday 11 November 2024

Kia ora koutou,

Staff Only Day Friday 1 November: Thank you to our school community for your support while our school was closed for instruction Friday 1 November. The day was one of two days the government initiated to allow all schools to engage in professional development for staff to start to come to grips with the new reading, writing and maths curriculum changes, including one hour per day for each subject, starting next year. Realistically in our school and other specialist schools the government's expectation is unrealistic, as we already have a highly adapted and integrated approach to these areas of the curriculum. The Specialist Schools Principals' Executive are working very closely with Erica Stanford, Minister of Education, and senior advisors, as they recognise that their mandate will not work for our students and are prepared to consider a revised approach.

During the first half of the morning our teachers and specialists viewed several video presentations by Jane Farrell, Reading Consultant, on Emergent Literacy and Shared Reading, while our support staff revised via our Occupational Therapists Team, our behaviour Zones of Regulation programme.

All staff then travelled to Huria Marae, the marae our school is affiliated with, to learn about the marae's protocols for visitors, the history and significance of the buildings' architecture and more.



Staff posed for a photo outside the Whare Tipuna, ancestral house and enjoyed kai (lunch) in the Whare Kai, (kitchen and dining hall).

Ngā mihi Kind regards, Barrie Wickens - Tumuaki/Principal

Important dates:

15th November - TSS Cross Country

21st November - Pāku Whakangahau Kapa Haka

11th December - SPEC Celebration

16th December - TSS Showcase

18th December - Last day of school

TIS Sara's class

This term we have created some amazing Calendar Art. The students looked at lots of examples and thought about the things they like to create their artwork. Ka mau te wehi!



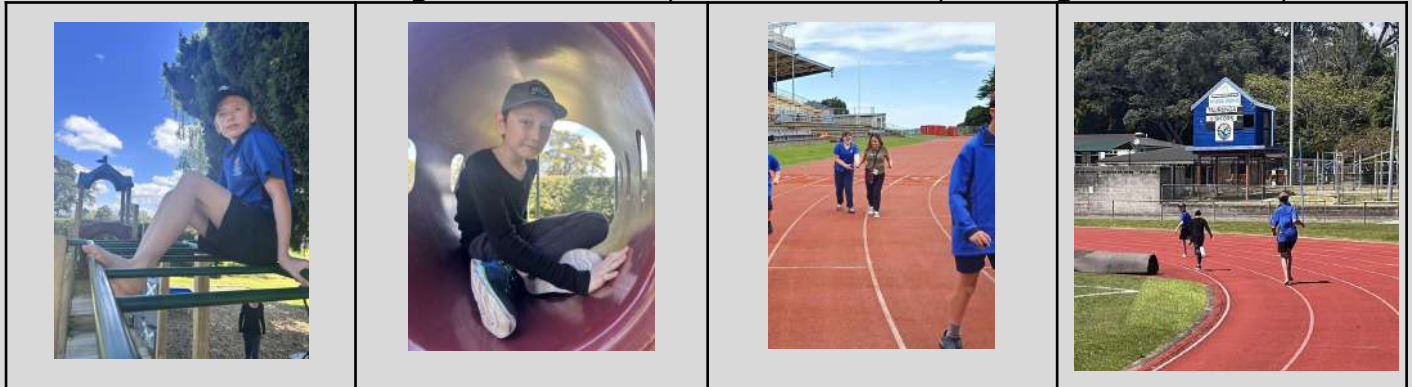
Each Wednesday we have been visiting the Mount Hot Pools for our swimming lesson and relaxation in the hot pool. First we swim lengths to practice our swimming skills then we go to the hot pool to relax and enjoy the warm salt water.



Our host school, Tauranga Intermediate had an Ultimate Relay event in week 2. Some of our class were keen to participate and run around the track with their Mānuka buddies. We love hanging out and doing activities with our Mānuka buddies.



We have also loved visiting the Domain to practice for our upcoming cross country event.



TIS Jolani's class



We've had a great term so far! We are practising for our TSS Cross Country event in week 5 as well as our Showcase event at the end of term. We enjoyed swimming and our weekly dance and movement sessions with Sophie. We also created some incredible calendar art!

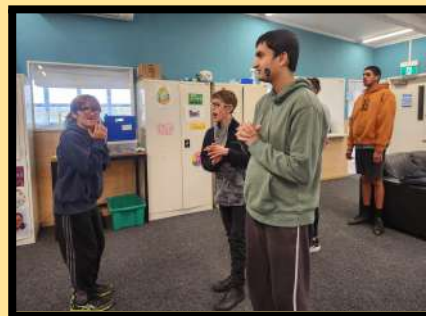


TC3 Helen's class



We have had a very busy term so far. We have been practising life skills such as shopping, food preparation, work experience and leisure skills. We also participated in an inter-school kapa haka event at Holy Trinity Church in Tauranga. Elvis even made an appearance !

HARAKEKE - TC3: Term 4 2024



Gosh! To think that the year is nearly over... The students and the staff of Harakeke have been reflecting on, and talking about, all the things we have learnt and experienced this year. There was a lot to talk about.

The latest thing that we have really enjoyed was last Friday's Kapa Haka Festival, which was held at the Holy Trinity Church in the city. Not only did we all love being on stage and joining in Waiata and Haka, but we also noticed how much the other schools celebrated our performance. When they responded to our bracket with their Haka we were so proud!

Mana Kaha Team

When it comes to supporting students with a variety of needs, our Tauranga Special School staff are very skilled.

Through our Team Teach journey, we've strengthened our knowledge and skills in de-escalation of situations and supporting our ākonga when experiencing extreme distress.

What we know, and what the Team Teach framework also reinforces, is that supporting ākonga well means to be *proactive*.

Our Mana Kaha team has been honing in on what being proactive means for us at TSS. Proactively supporting tamariki at kura and home often means:



Understanding and responding to communication efforts (e.g. communication with physical gestures, using visuals, technology, speaking etc)

Using the Zones of Regulation check ins to develop the social and emotional learning of our ākonga, growing their understanding of their emotions and ways to regulate their bodies

Checking in with your GP, paediatrician and other medical professionals in proactive ways, particularly when tamariki needs seem to change



Being aware of the unique sensory needs of each tamariki and exploring various ways to meet these needs (for example physical movement, deep pressure, headphones, music, calming tools)

Planning for the future - what support can we put in place, and steps do we take, to help our tamariki achieve their future goals

HERE'S SOME USEFUL INFORMATION AND AGENCY LINKS FOR WHĀNAU:

Explore

Support Net can also refer your whānau to Explore. Explore offers a variety of wellbeing supports, such as mental health support, wellbeing workshops, behaviour support, autism services, or early prevention assistance.

<https://explorewellbeing.org.nz/our-services/>

Team Teach

Team Teach provides training for organisations to support behaviour. Team Teach is based on respect, team building, de-escalation, safety and communication

<https://www.teamteach.com.au/webinars-and-on-demand/>

Support Net

If your tamariki's needs change and you feel you need more support, you can seek a re-assessment or review of your Support Plan through Support Net.

<https://www.bopdhb.health.nz/health-and-support/health-wellbeing-services-and-advice/support-net-disability-services-and-support/#Referrals>

It's Calendar Art time!

The student's have been busy creating art work that can be made into affordable Calendars, Cards, Diaries, Mouse Mats and Sketch Pads.

Each product is made from your own child's art.

These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends and are perfect for posting overseas.

Follow these instructions to place your Calendar Art order online:

1/. Go to www.kidsartworks.com

2/. Use the Entrance Code: KZ1255

3/. Enter your child's room & name when prompted

The order is open from 6/11/2024 until 18/11/2024

Payment can be made over the website via credit card or account2account.

If you have any questions please contact your child's teacher or
Nicky Henderson Ph 0273662704

school organiser



 **TAURANGA SPECIAL SCHOOL**

Invites whānau and caregivers to our

CROSS COUNTRY DAY

Date: Friday 15 November
When: 10:30 - 12:00
Where: Wharepai Domain, 91 Cameron Rd

Please let your class teacher know if you will be attending

